



# WESTWOOD

## A COMMUNITY NEWSLETTER

### Westwood Land Trust Marks 15 Year Anniversary

#### Westwood Land Trust

In 1999, a group of residents passionate about preserving what they love most in Westwood—the wooded and open natural places that we drive by every day—formed the Westwood Land Trust (WLT). During these past 15 years, WLT has been the only entity preserving land in Westwood. In total, WLT now protects 200+ acres in Westwood—land that is preserved forever. To mark the 15-year milestone, “Protected by Westwood Land Trust” signs have been installed on some of WLT’s protected properties. The signs provide a thank you to donors and are daily reminders of WLT’s work. You will see these signs as you drive along Clapboardtree Street, Hartford Street, Mill Street and Sandy Valley Road.

Looking forward, Westwood Land Trust’s all-volunteer board promises to continue to work hard to expand and protect our town’s open space that we all love. To do this, your support is needed to help WLT be prepared for the next preservation opportunities and to monitor existing preserved properties. Keep in mind that WLT is a local charity that relies on its private donor base; WLT does not receive any funding from the town or from national organizations. Please help by making a tax deductible contribution this year at [www.westwoodlandtrust.org](http://www.westwoodlandtrust.org) or to PO Box 2616, Westwood.



PHOTO CREDIT: WLT BOARD MEMBER NANCY LOONEY

*Karen Manor Metzold, current President of Westwood Land Trust and on the WLT Board for 11 years, stands on the first property that came under WLT protection at 665 Clapboardtree Street. WLT had signs installed on some of the WLT-protected properties to celebrate its 15 year anniversary.*

### Reorganization Of Land Use Departments

Peter Heckenbleikner, former Town Manager and Interim Economic Development Officer, conducted a careful and comprehensive review and comparison of Westwood’s organizational structure of its land use departments with other comparable communities. He specifically reviewed two basic models. In one model, the economic development is part of the executive function of local government, responsible to the Town Manager/Administrator and reportable to the Board of Selectmen, which is Westwood’s existing structure. In the other model, economic development is part of a Community Development Department, therefore integrated among all other land use related functions.

After consideration of all the feedback from Westwood town officials and information received from other comparable communities, the recommendation to the Board of Selectmen was in favor of the consolidation of all the land use functions (including Planning, Building, Economic Development, Inspections,

Conservation, Zoning, Health, Permitting and Licensing, and Housing) into a Community and Economic Development Department under the direction of a Director of Community and Economic Development who reports directly to the Board of Selectmen through the Town Administrator. From a financial perspective, the new proposed position involves reallocating funds that have been budgeted for an Economic Development Director and support staff so that the projected cost of the salary for the Director of Community and Economic Development would be roughly equivalent to a combination of these two sources.

This recommendation was very similar to other consolidations made over the past years. Twenty years ago, all of the financial functions (Treasurer, Collector, Assessors, Budgeting, and Accounting) were consolidated under a Finance Director position that was created when a vacant Budget Analyst

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# Did You Know...

## WestCAT

Did you know? WestCAT, your local cable television network, offers Westwood residents a chance to see all Government Meetings on demand via our website: <http://www.westcat.tv>. From the home page, click on the rotating videos of meetings that were covered by our production crew to get up to speed on current and past Planning Board, Board of Selectmen, Finance and Warrant Commission Hearings, and other pertinent public meetings that contain important information. You can also access our site by visiting the Town of Westwood's website and clicking on WestCAT TV Videos under the Quick Links section.



If you have any questions regarding when meetings can be seen on Cable Television, or on our website, please contact Executive Director Greg Agnew at: 774-538-WEST, or email him at: [greg@westcat.tv](mailto:greg@westcat.tv).

## Holiday Cardboard and Styrofoam Collection

Did you know the Westwood Department of Public Works will once again offer a holiday dumpster to dispose of extra cardboard?

### Get into the Recycling Spirit!

The cardboard **ONLY** dumpster will be available for use:  
December 29 – January 5, 2015 (7AM – 3PM)  
Closed: Saturday after 12PM; all day Sunday

### \*NEW\* Styrofoam Collection

The DPW knows about Cyber Monday and all the styrofoam packaging that comes with your new goodies. Ever wonder what to do with it? Bring it down to DPW for proper disposal. ReFoamit will be here for a limited time on the morning of January 3 to collect #4, #5, and #6 Styrofoam.

Styrofoam will **ONLY** be accepted:  
January 3, 2015 (8AM – 12PM)

Please don't waste your time and efforts! See [www.westwoodrecycling.com](http://www.westwoodrecycling.com) for details and images of what types of Styrofoam are acceptable to bring.

\*Styrofoam is NOT acceptable in the cardboard dumpster at DPW, nor your curbside recycling bin.

*Contributed by Janice Pare*

## Westwood Historical Society

### Speakers slated for your enjoyment

Mark your calendar! On February 10, 2015 the Westwood Historical Society will present Glenn Field, Warning Coordination Meteorologist for the National Weather Service, who will discuss the work of the weather bureau in predicting tornadoes and other severe weather as well as providing support services for severe weather events.

On March 10th, 2015, Anthony Sammarco will give an overview of the immigration of the Irish to Boston in the 1800s. As well, he will offer a discussion on the soldiers of the Irish regiments in the American Civil War.

Programs are presented at the Fisher School, 830 High Street, at 7:30 in the evening. All events are free and open to the public. Refreshments will be served.

The Westwood Historical Society was established in 1965 by a small group of founders becoming an active organization serving the community with special attention to the unique history of Westwood. The Society is a non-profit organization. The building is handicapped accessible.

*Contributed by Joan Murphy*

## White Oak Cottages

### Memory Cafe

#### Building Relationships & Collective Experiences... for a Shared Journey

Join us for an informal social gathering connecting those with memory loss and their caregivers for conversation, activities (including holiday songs and festivities) and refreshments.

WHERE: Westwood Public Library

DATE: Tuesday, December 16th

TIME: 2-3:30 pm

COST: Free

*We ask caregivers to be present with any guests that need personal care assistance.*

Memory Café is brought to you by White Oak Cottages at Fox Hill Village as part of the "Dementia Friendly Community" initiative—providing resources to families facing memory loss as well as local community training. For more information, please contact Janis Taylor at [jtaylor@whiteoakcottages.com](mailto:jtaylor@whiteoakcottages.com).

## Announcement by the Town of Westwood

### Roy London Humanitarian Award

Do you know a special resident or organization that deserves to be nominated for the Roy London Humanitarian Award?

Many of us marvel at the work of others in our community. Now is the time to recommend these people as nominees for the 6th Annual Roy London Humanitarian Award. Roy London was a Westwood resident who did many special things to help others within our community. In 2010, the Town of Westwood established this award in Roy's honor. This award is presented annually to a resident or organization in the Westwood who by their actions embody the spirit of Roy London.

Candidates for this award are those people who have demonstrated compassionate or charitable action to make Westwood a better community. Past recipients include Fran and Colleen Campion, Robert Folsom, Chester Ansley Smith, Glad Rags

Thrift Shop, Megan Licameli, Kenneth Foscaldo, the Ouellette Family, Westwood Community Chest, the Westwood Food Pantry, Joseph Gantert, Paula McLaughlin, Larry Walsh, Charles Domina, Wendy Muellers, Denise Singleton and Jessica Cole.

The nomination of a resident or organization that meets the descriptive criteria of the Roy London Humanitarian Award should be submitted to Christine McCarthy at Westwood Town Hall. The award(s) will be presented at a Board of Selectmen meeting. Please contact Christine at [cemccarthy@townhall.westwood.ma.us](mailto:cemccarthy@townhall.westwood.ma.us) or 781-326-4172 with any questions or to make a nomination. Nominations must be submitted before February 28th, 2015. For additional information, please go to [www.townhall.westwood.ma.us](http://www.townhall.westwood.ma.us) and click on Roy London Humanitarian Award – Nomination Papers under the Board of Selectmen's page.

## Westwood Department of Public Works

### Winter 2014/2015

The Department of Public Works is making final preparations for another busy winter and is anticipating the same winter conditions as last year. We will be utilizing the same contractor during plowable events in conjunction with our staff. Here are some friendly reminders that greatly increase our productivity and effectiveness during our winter operations.

#### Storm Drain Cleaning

There are over 2,000 catch basins (storm drains) in the Town, making it almost impossible to clear snow and debris from all of them. We would appreciate it if you could keep the drain in front of your property clean, so it won't cause an ice hazard or puddle on the street.

#### Winter Parking Restrictions

The Operations Manager or the Chief of Police, for the purpose of removing or plowing snow, or removing ice, from any way, may remove or cause to be removed any vehicle interfering with such work, and the cost of such removal and of the storage charges, shall be imposed upon the owner of such vehicle. If at all possible please stay off the roads during storms to help our efforts.

#### Snow Clearing

No person shall lay, throw, place or cause to be placed any snow or ice on any town street or sidewalk so as to create a hazardous condition or public safety concern. If after having received notice

from a duly authorized agent of the Town that such a condition exists, the owner of the property from which the snow or ice was removed (or his agent having charge thereof) fails to correct the condition within a reasonable amount of time, the owner or agent shall be deemed to be in violation.

#### Town Layout Information

Nothing damaged by the Town that is constructed, built, or placed on the Town layout will be repaired or replaced, i.e.: mailboxes, fences, stone walls, etc. All portable basketball hoops should be removed from the public right of way. We always encourage residents to utilize plow markers to minimize any plow damage. The snow policy can be found on the town website or by following the link: <http://www.townhall.westwood.ma.us/index.cfm/page/Public-Snow-Removal-Policy/pid/25614/cdid/32015/>. You may also contact the office at 781-320-1037.

#### Paving 2015

The DPW has completed its pavement management plan for the Spring/Summer. The following streets scheduled to be paved this upcoming construction season are: Smith Drive, Spring Lane, Downey Street, Wight Lane, Clapboardtree Street from Thatcher St. to Washington Street, Grove Street and East Street. We have notified utility companies of our plans for the upcoming work. We recommend residents reach out to utility companies as well for any potential hook ups. Once these roads are paved there will be a 5 year moratorium preventing any trench work. If there are any questions please reach out to the DPW office at 781-320-1037.

*Contributed by Brendan Ryan*

## Community and Economic Development continued from page 1



PHOTO CREDIT: TOWN HALL

Nora Loughnane

position and a vacant Administrative Assistant position were consolidated to fund the Finance Director position. Fifteen years ago, the public works functions (Highway, Cemetery, Engineering, and Grounds and Building Maintenance) were consolidated into the Department of Public Works under the direction of a Director of Public Works. Both consolidations resulted in a significant advancement in operational efficiency, coordination and professionalism of the services to the community. The consolidation of the land use functions can be expected to have very similar positive outcomes making Westwood more attractive to potential

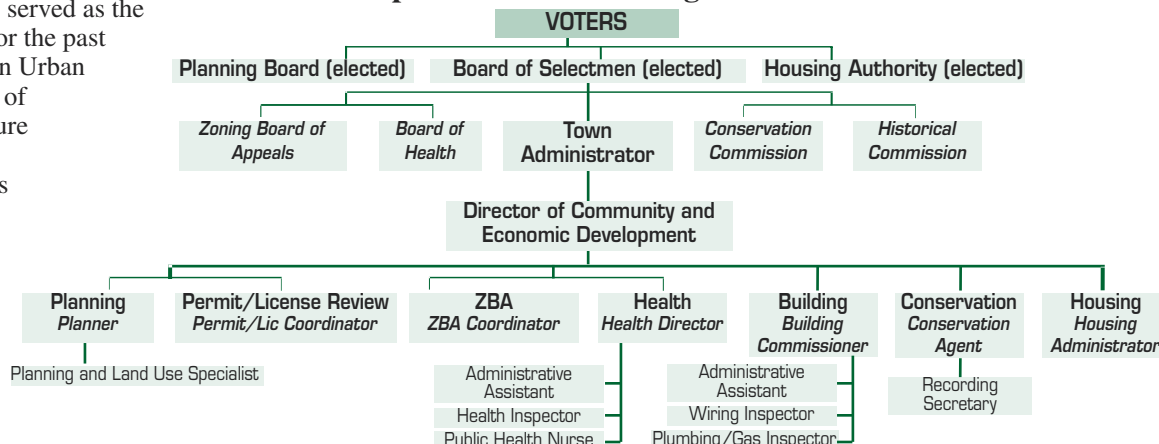
economic development opportunities, including but not limited to, the subsequent phases of University Station.

Nora Loughnane, who has served as the Town Planner in Westwood for the past six years, and has a Masters in Urban Planning from the University of Virginia, School of Architecture and a Bachelor of Arts in Physics from Holy Cross, was selected as the best qualified candidate for the Director of Community and Economic Development position. Nora served as the City Planner in the City of Woonsocket for eight years where she oversaw staff engaged in

Planning and Economic Development, as a Planner I for the Town of North Hempstead on Long Island, New York. In addition to her education and professional experience, Nora has been an intricate part of the Westwood Community, serving in various volunteer capacities with several municipal and community committees including, the Westwood Educational Foundation Board of Directors, Comprehensive Master Plan Steering Committee, Westwood Historical Commission, Conservation Commission, Westwood Elementary School Collation, Westwood High School Gridiron Club, Saint Denis Parish Council, and the Deerfield, Thurston and High School PTOs.

Nora is extremely well versed in the issues at hand and presented detailed programs for addressing them. Her deep knowledge of the community, the staff, the board and commission members, and the respect all these individuals have of her capabilities will stand her extremely well in leading this new department.

### Proposed Land Use Reorganization





## New Faces Around Town

### Westwood Youth & Family Services

#### Reorganization needs filled



Earlier this year, the Board of Selectmen voted unanimously to approve a reorganization in the Youth & Family Services Department. This reorganization created two new roles, a second full-time Youth Services Counselor and a part-time Administrative Assistant, where there was a vacant full-time administrative role, allowing the department to operate more efficiently and to better meet service demands.



PHOTO CREDIT: TOWN HALL

*Sarah Cleveland*

The Youth & Family Services Department and their Board are happy to introduce the two new staff members who were hired this past August following the reorganization:

Sarah Cleveland is the new Youth Services Counselor, joining Youth Services Counselor, Joanna Bengel, LICSW, and Director, Danielle Sutton, LICSW, to round out the clinical staff of the Youth & Family Services department. Sarah comes to Westwood with a wealth of experience in work with children, adolescents and families. After receiving her Master's

Degree in Social Work from Simmons College in 2010, she went on to hold positions at the Wayside Youth & Family Support Network in both Framingham and Milford. Sarah was raised in Milford, MA and currently resides in Holliston.



PHOTO CREDIT: TOWN HALL

*Mary Ellen LaRose*

Mary Ellen LaRose is our new Administrative Assistant, chosen from a large and competitive pool of applicants. Mary Ellen is a Westwood resident with a long history of civic engagement, having served and held leadership positions in community groups such as Westwood Young Women's Club, Westwood Community Chest and the Sheehan Elementary School PTO. Mary Ellen has a Master's Degree in Education and taught Social Studies at the Pollard Middle School in Needham for a number of years.

Together, the staff of the Youth & Family Services department provides clinical services and supportive community programs to foster the healthy growth of children 4-18 years old and their families. Please visit our website at [www.townhall.westwood.ma.us/yfs](http://www.townhall.westwood.ma.us/yfs) or call 781-320-1006 for more information.

### Westwood Public Library

#### New Library Director appointed



PHOTO CREDIT: TOWN HALL

*The new director of the library, Patricia Malone Perry.*

The Board of Library Trustees is pleased to announce that they have appointed Patricia Malone Perry as the new Westwood Library Director. She replaces Tom Viti who retired after 35 years of exemplary service. Tricia, who started on December 1st, comes to us from the Millis Public Library where she had been the Director since 2009, and where prior to that served as the Millis Children and Youth Services Librarian.

Tricia has extensive experience in all aspects of library management. In Millis, Tricia was credited with reviving the town's commitment to constructing a new

library and was intricately involved with planning and follow up until the project was completed. With a reputation of being a hard working, creative and dedicated librarian, we are excited to welcome Tricia to Westwood.

Tricia also worked at the Boston Public Library, the Snell Library at Northeastern University, the Sharon Public Library and for the Sharon Public Schools as a Library Teacher. She has a M.S. in Library and Information Science from Simmons College and a B.A. in Economics and Government from Smith College. She lives with her family in Sharon, Massachusetts.

*Contributed by Town Hall*

### Westwood Police Department

#### P.D. has a Twitter account—@Westwoodpd

Twitter is a social media system where people can send out messages of up to 140 characters and can link to other web pages or pictures. These messages can be read on a smartphone or on any web browser. We use our twitter feed to announce important things, such as missing persons, road closures, or level 3 sex offenders; slightly less important things, such as trying to match up missing pets with owners; and unimportant things, as when we publish vintage photos on Thursdays. We also send out a tweet whenever we publish a new video on our YouTube page.

You do not need a twitter account to get our messages. You can see them several ways. You can also see a list of our tweets by going to <http://twitter.com/westwoodpd>

A great way of receiving our tweets without having to set up a twitter account is to download the MYPD smartphone app. Once you download the app, it can be programmed to the police department you would like to follow. The app will show a list of our tweets, allow people to send us an email or a tip, and it can be set up to notify you (make a noise) when we send out a tweet. Norwood and Dover also use this app, so you have the option of subscribing to their twitter feeds as well as ours without having a twitter account.

MYPD is available for iPhones and Android phones. You can search for it from your phone, or follow the link from [Westwoodpd.org](http://Westwoodpd.org) -> stay connected -> Westwoodpd Apps page.

Westwood PD created a YouTube page this past July. At the moment, we use it to post truck and car crashes that show up on our East Street Railroad bridge traffic camera. If we have video related to any investigations, we will also post it on the YouTube page. You can visit our YouTube by searching for Westwood PD.

*Contributed by Leo Hoban*

## Westwood's American Legion Post 320

### About The American Legion

The American Legion was chartered and incorporated by Congress in 1919 as a patriotic veterans organization devoted to mutual helpfulness. It is the nation's largest veterans service organization, committed to mentoring and sponsorship of youth programs in our communities, advocating patriotism and honor, promoting a strong national security, and continued devotion to our fellow service members and veterans. We refer to these as the four pillars: Veterans Affairs & Rehabilitation, National Security, Americanism, and Children & Youth. Each of these pillars encompasses a variety of programs that benefit our nation's veterans, it's service members, their families, the youth of America and ordinary citizens. These programs make a difference in hundreds of thousands of lives each year.

In contrast to other veterans organizations, the Legion offers a number of local programs and activities to strengthen its commitment to our nation's grass roots and the people we serve. American Legion Baseball is one of the nation's most successful amateur athletic programs; it continues to educate youths on the importance of sportsmanship and develops the quality of our country's citizenship. The Heroes to Hometowns program is the only nationwide reintegration assistance service for wounded veterans from Iraq and Afghanistan. Additionally, millions of dollars in donations have been given to fellow veterans and their families in times of grief, and various scholarship opportunities ensure the future success of our youth.

The American Legion is a nonpartisan, not-for-profit organization with great political influence perpetuated by its grass-roots involvements in the legislation process. Legionnaires' sense of obligation to their community, state and nation drives an honest advocacy for veterans in Washington. The Legion stands not behind politics, but the issues and people that institute progress by focusing on veterans rights and quality of life.

The American Legion's success depends entirely on active membership, participation and volunteerism. The organization belongs to the people it serves and the communities in which it thrives.

More information about the Post and how to join can be found on line at [www.http://westwoodalpost320.com/](http://westwoodalpost320.com/) or contact one of the officers.

The officers of the Westwood American Legion Post 320 are:

Commander: Richard D. Paster  
 Adjutant: Christopher C. Henes  
 Finance Officer: J. Kenneth Foscaldo  
 Service Officer: James Sullivan  
 Membership Chairman: Paul Mullen  
 Chaplain: Christopher C. Henes

Directors:  
 J. Kenneth Foscaldo  
 Edward Richardson  
 Robert Harrington



Some of the officers of the Westwood American Legion Post 320 are (from left to right): Edward Richardson, Ken Foscaldo, Richard Paster, Chris Henes and Bob Harrington. (Missing from photo is Paul Mullen.)

Contributed by Ken Foscaldo, Executive Board, Westwood Post 320

## Around Town

### Senior Center services due to expand

Lina Arena-DeRosa, the new Director of the Westwood Senior Center, hopes to launch an expanded program to better assist the 3,400 plus town citizens who are 60+ years old. Arena-DeRosa has a goal of improving geriatric health services and recreational events for seniors.

Arena-DeRosa, who assumed leadership for the Westwood Council on Aging in September, has focused her life on the support and care of the aging since her grandmother died from the impact of Alzheimer's. She previously led senior affairs in Holliston and succeeded Pat Larkin in Westwood.

"Pat Larkin planted the seeds of a great Westwood senior center," Arena-DeRosa declared. "It is my job to fertilize and make the senior center grow."

With grants, fund-raising and town/state appropriations, Arena-DeRosa will be working to expand senior citizen services. With her community-respected professional staff, Arena-DeRosa outlines her plan to serve seniors:

- 55 to 68 years of age. Many are members of the "sandwich generation," raising children, caregiving for elderly family members and preparing financially for retirement
- 68 to 80 years of age with holistic health programs offering different levels of exercise and expert lecturers on improving the quality of geriatric life
- 80+ years of age by keeping seniors connected with their peers and society as a whole, plus support for their mental and physical well being

As senior utilization of the center grows in the future, there will continue to be noon time calorie- and sodium-controlled meals, Meals-on-Wheels delivered to home-bound seniors and special luncheons celebrating holidays. The Council on Aging has two vans to deliver non-driving seniors to center events and essential appointments.

Contributed by Richard Brasie

## Where in Westwood was this?



Answer is revealed elsewhere in this issue.



## Westwood To Launch Commonwealth Connect

Westwood will launch a new program that will allow residents to report issues and request services through an online and mobile interface. Powered by SeeClickFix, the place-based reporting Commonwealth Connect platform allows residents to report non-emergency issues (potholes, street light outages, missed trash pickup, etc.) directly to the town.

With the online and mobile reporting platform, residents can report issues through service request categories via Westwood's town website, mobile applications (iPhone, Android), Facebook App, and SeeClickFix.com. Users can take a picture of an issue, pinpoint the location through automatic GPS and provide relevant details when reporting the issue. The issue report is then routed to the appropriate town department for action. The issue is then updated for status changes until it is finally resolved. Residents reporting these issues can track the status from start to end.

SeeClickFix was launched in 2008 and allows citizens anywhere in the world to report and monitor non-emergency community issues. Commonwealth Connect began as a partnership between See Click Fix and the City of Boston who had experienced great success with Citizens Connect, a SeeClickFix mobile app launched in 2009 by Mayor Menino's Office of New Urban Mechanics. In 2012, thirty five (35) Massachusetts municipalities were selected for a three (3) year funding program to implement Commonwealth Connect in their communities. Westwood was selected to be a part of a similar 2014 grant program.

The Town of Westwood is excited to offer this service to the public and look forward to interacting with citizens. This service will be launched on December 17th. The Commonwealth Connect app is available for download for both apple and android devices. Simply search for Westwood, MA and select it as your default town!



**WOW! Record-breaking crowds and great weather combined to make Westwood Day 2014 a huge success.**



**Thank you to all who participated and volunteered. See you again in 2015!**

### News Items Wanted!

The *next* quarterly newsletters are due to be delivered to homes on or about March 15, 2015, June 15, 2015, and September 15, 2015. Please submit articles for consideration 6 weeks prior to these expected delivery dates. Please send any submissions, suggestions, observations, or feedback of any kind to:

Diane Thornton, *Editor*,

Westwood Community Newsletter, 580 High Street, Westwood, MA 02090 or *email*: [newsletter@townhall.westwood.ma.us](mailto:newsletter@townhall.westwood.ma.us)

*Thank  
you!*

## Westwood Community Chest

### Save the Date: Chiara Bistro Event—1/26/15

The winter months can add additional stress on all of us but especially those struggling financially. Westwood Community Chest (WCC) is here to help. Through a confidential application process, residents in need can apply for up to \$750 of immediate financial assistance per year. WCC will pay their bills for utilities, medical, housing or other basic needs directly. These bill payments have often come at just the right time. Many WCC payments have prevented utility shutoffs. Others have provided heat, electricity or phone. Others, pure peace of mind that bills have been paid.

With your help, we can make people aware that assistance is available to friends or neighbors in Westwood who need it. Please encourage anyone you may know who faces temporary financial struggles to apply. Applications are available online at our website [www.wcc.cfsites.org](http://www.wcc.cfsites.org) or at the Westwood Council on Aging, Town Hall, Westwood Youth and Family Services or the Main Post Office. The application process is strictly confidential. Anyone can call the WCC Hotline 24 hours a day and leave a message at 781-366-0470.

Westwood Community Chest is funded entirely by the thoughtful donations of individuals and businesses. This year we are teaming up once again with Chiara Bistro and Roche Bros for one of our most popular fundraising events. Join us for an Evening of International Food and Wine at Chiara Bistro on Monday, January 26, 2015. For tickets, email us at [westwoodcommunitychest@gmail.com](mailto:westwoodcommunitychest@gmail.com). Thank you to Roche Bros for their generous sponsorship of this event.

*Contributed by Mary Ellen LaRose*

## Around Town

### Police Department shares traffic challenges

With three major, high traffic roadways rolling through the length of Westwood, Chief of Police Jeffrey Silva is focusing on traffic and accident control while also policing crimes against property and people. Thousands of cars and trucks flow through Westwood each day, and the traffic and property damage accident challenges will grow larger with the growth of University Station in the southwest section of Westwood. When completed, University Station, on 130 acres next to the MBTA/AMTRAK commuter depot, will feature retail, residential, office and hotel buildings.

Westwood is cut through on its main roadway, High Street/Route 109, between the Dedham line and the town limits of Medfield, rolling by the police station and Town Hall. A recent traffic count for High Street/Route 109 from Route 128 east-west totals 22,802 vehicles a day with Route 128 feeding the traffic.

Also, there is high traffic on the busy, mostly commercial traffic routes through Westwood from Dedham to Norwood on 1A and Providence Highway.

Chief Silva and his traffic safety team send at least two police cars to any accident scene—one officer to police the accident and the second officer to direct traffic around the accident. The chief and his team are concentrating on managing the major traffic control challenges in our town.

How can you help? Always think of safety; slow down and do not drive with any distractions.

*Contributed by Richard Brasie*

## News From The Town Clerks Office

### Dog Licenses

Dog licensing will begin for 2015, on December 1, 2014 through March 31, 2015.

- You may license your dog by mail, provided you include a copy of a current rabies certificate and a self-addressed stamped envelope. If you are licensing your dog for the first time, proof of spay or neutering is also required.
- Licenses will be valid from January 1, 2015 until December 31, 2015.
- You must license your dog on an annual basis.
- If you own more than 4 dogs this is considered a “Personal Kennel” per MGL c. 140 §136A.
- You must go through a special permit application process through the Zoning Board of Appeals to license a kennel.
- Failure to license your dog on or before March 31, 2015 may result in a fine of \$25.00, per town bylaws §184-10,B.(1)

Licensing Fees are as follows:

- Dogs not Neutered or Spayed: \$15.00
- Dogs Neutered or Spayed : \$10.00
- Kennel fees-please contact the Town Clerk’s office

Please be sure to include the correct licensing fee. If you are unsure, Please contact the Town Clerks office at 781 326-3964.

### Town Census

The Annual Town Census will be sent to each household in early December. It is extremely important that you fill this out and return it within 10 days of its receipt. Failure to return the Census may cause a voter to be designated as inactive on the voting list (M.G.L, Ch.51, § 4).

### Town Election

The Annual Town Election will be held on Tuesday, April 28, 2015.

Nomination papers will be available on Tuesday, January 14, 2015 for those registered Westwood voters who wish to run for the following town offices:

- Board of Assessors - 1 Seat - 3 Year Term
- Housing Authority - 1 Seat - 5 Year Term
- Library Trustee - 2 Seats - 3 Year Term
- Moderator - 1 Seat - 1 Year Term
- Planning Board - 2 Seats - 3 Year Term
- School Committee - 1 Seat -3 Year Term
- Selectman - 1 Seat - 3 Year Term
- Sewer Commission - 1 Seat - 3 Year Term
- Town Treasurer - 1 Seat - 3 Year Term

Important dates for prospective candidates:

March 6, 2015, 5:00 p.m. - Last day and hour to obtain nomination papers. (MGL.ch.53§9A)

March 10, 2015, 5:00 p.m. - Last day and hour to submit nomination papers to Registrars of Voters for certification

March 26, 2015, 5:00 p.m. - Last day and hour to object or withdraw nomination papers

For those residents who are not currently registered to vote, the last day to register and participate in the Annual Town Election (4/28/2015) and Annual Town Meeting (5/4/2015) is April 8, 2015.

## Foundation for Westwood Education

### Investing in Education and Our Community

The Foundation for Westwood Education is pleased to announce that this fall, we awarded more than \$13,000 to fund thirteen grant proposals. Grant recipients include three elementary schools, the Westwood Integrated Pre-school, Thurston Middle School, Westwood High School, and the Westwood Public Library. Highlights of grants awarded include:

- Bioengineering with miniPCR8 Technology for biology students at Westwood High School
- Full STEAM Ahead: community science and engineering programs for the Westwood Public Library
- Bugworks Bugology Interactive Presentations for students at the Integrated Pre-school and the Sheehan Elementary School.
- Artists in Residence: Tony Vacca's World Rhythms for the Martha Jones Elementary School and Seeing the Story with Raul Gonzalez for the Thurston Middle School

We wish to thank all of the Westwood residents and business leaders who have made possible the funding of these grants. We simply could not carry out our mission – to enhance learning opportunities for all Westwood residents – without your support.

For those of you who don't know us: The Foundation for Westwood Education has, for twenty-four years, raised money which we then use to award grants to non-profit community groups, teachers, and schools that submit proposals for innovative and meaningful educational and cultural enrichment programs. By providing a source of funding that might not otherwise be available, the Foundation supports high-quality education in our schools and for the community at large.

Visitors to Westwood who drive through our town, stroll through Hale Reservation, frequent our new public library, or step into any one of Westwood's seven public schools are often struck by the quiet beauty and creative energy here. Because of its size,



overall health, and the quality of our schools, Westwood has become (and has twice been singled out by national magazines as) one of the best places to live, not just in the state, but in the country as a whole. Beneath all its tangible assets, though, Westwood is a great place to live because you have made it so – through your generosity and participation in the life of the community. We hope that you will continue your support.

#### How you can help:

- **Make a Year-End Contribution.** Please contribute to our annual appeal by returning the envelope included in our community appeal letter or make an donation online by visiting: [www.foundationforwestwoodeducation.org/](http://www.foundationforwestwoodeducation.org/). Please note that participation in an employer matching program doubles the impact of your gift.
- **Host an Entertaining for Education (or E4E) party in March, 2015.** Last year's E4E parties raised over \$28,000. E4E events are fun ways to get together with friends and neighbors. March 2014 parties included cocktail and dinner gatherings, a Downton Abbey Tea, a costume ball, and a St. Patrick's Day party, just to name a few. To ask a question, inquire about E4E or sign up to become an E4E host this March, please contact us at: [events@foundationforwestwoodeducation.org](mailto:events@foundationforwestwoodeducation.org)
- **Submit a grant proposal.** The Foundation welcomes grant proposals for innovative educational or cultural learning projects that will benefit the Westwood public schools and/or community. The upcoming deadline for grant proposals is April 15, 2015.
- **Attend the Foundation for Westwood Education's 19th annual spelling bee.** Cheer on our 200+ amazing 3rd, 4th and 5th grade spellers at the Foundation's spelling bee, January 9, 2015 at Westwood High School.

Contributed by Leslie Greffenius

## Westwood Early Childhood

### Walk, Talk, and Yoga

Are you looking for some enriching, and educational activities to attend with your children this winter? The Early Childhood Office supports Westwood families with children from birth through school age. The Early Childhood Office is supported by the Westwood Public Schools and funded through the Massachusetts Department of Early Education and Care, local grants and generous donations. Through fundraising, we are able to offer several monthly programs free of charge to Westwood families with young children.

Parents with infants, toddlers, and preschool children have an opportunity to meet other families, play and practice developing skills monthly at our **Family Playgroup!** Mary Manning uses a variety of materials that foster fine and gross motor, speech and language, cognitive, and social skill development. Start out with an obstacle course, explore the classroom, and finish with a story! New families are welcome to join as space allows. Registration is required.

Are you looking for a good "stretch" with your 3-7 year old on a Saturday morning? **Little Yogis** is a fun, active program for



*Fun and active program for Little Yogis*

preschool children and their parents. Erin Mann is a certified yoga instructor who has an intriguing way of incorporating children's stories and yoga poses. Children and adults alike enjoy learning simple yoga positions as they act out animals or characters in familiar stories. Registration is required.

**Walk, Talk and Read** is a parent/child program sponsored by Early Childhood in collaboration with the Westwood Public Library and Hale Reservation. Families meet at the Trading Post where they enjoy a nature themed story time followed by a guided short walk led by a naturalist through Hale. The next program will be on January 26th and registration will begin in mid December. We hope you can join us as we learn about hibernation!

The Early Childhood Council fundraising committee is launching its first direct appeal for donations to support these and other monthly parent/child programs! As budgets have tightened in recent years, securing sufficient funding has become increasing difficult. Please consider making a financial donation to the Council today by mailing a check to The Westwood Early Childhood Council, 200 Nahatan Street – Room A134, Westwood, MA 02090. One hundred percent of the funds will go to continuing programming and enhancing our current offerings for families in Westwood. We appreciate your support!

Janet Lucey, Early Childhood Coordinator  
Westwood Public Schools  
<http://www.westwood.k12.ma.us/index.cfm?pid=14678>  
[jlucey@westwood.k12.ma.us](mailto:jlucey@westwood.k12.ma.us) (781) 461-9548



## Hale Reservation

### A year in review!

Hale Reservation enjoyed a big year in 2014. With program expansion and some capital improvements, the local organization continues to offer outdoor experiences for all.

Hale Outdoor Learning Adventures campers began the year by attending special outings to the Boston Nature Center, the Boston Police Crime Lab and a Celtics game. This was a great opportunity for these Boston Public School children to engage in year round activities that complemented their summer experiences at Hale.

In the spring, Hale took part in the Boston Marathon for the second year in a row. Westwood was well represented with a number of runners on the team. The group was determined to cross the finish line while raising funds and awareness for Hale.

Neighbors may have noticed two new projects at Hale which were completed this summer. In July, the staff was thrilled to open phase one of Julia's Place which was built in memory of Julia Brune, an employee and Westwood resident who lost her battle with cancer in 2011. Julia's Place is now the home to the Teen and Tween program at Membership Beach. Also new was a second ropes course built adjacent to Hale Day Camp. In response to the demand for more adventure programming, Hale added six new elements including the Horizontal Playground and the Burma Buckets.

Students from the Boston Public Schools participate on the Hale Outdoor Learning Adventures program which is part of a national study to prevent summer learning loss.



More recently, Hale's Executive Director Eric Arnold was invited to speak at the National Summer Learning Conference in San Antonio, Texas and at The University of Chicago Consortium on School Research. The conferences brought leaders from across the country to discuss the importance of year-round learning opportunities for all children.

Hale is doing wonderful things in your community. At this time of year, why not consider a gift to this worthy local organization? Visit [www.halereservation.org](http://www.halereservation.org) to learn more.

The Brune family poses for a photo in front of Julia's Place at Hale Reservation.



Contributed by Paula McLaughlin

## Westwood Recreation Department — AQUATICS

The Westwood Recreation Department is an Authorized Provider of the American Red Cross. In 2014, the American Red Cross released a newly revised Swimming and Water Safety Program. These programs teach people of different ages and abilities, how to be safe in, on, or around the water, and how to swim. The Westwood Recreation Department offers the following courses and presentations:

**Parent and Child Aquatics** offer children, ages 6 months to 3 years, the opportunity to explore the water in the arms and under the close supervision of their parent. This experience provides an occasion for socialization with other families, enhancement of parent/child bonding, as well as the exploration of buoyancy.

**Preschool Aquatics** is the children's water experience in an elevated teaching platform, where the participant is able to touch the floor with their feet and the water is at waist level. This shallow water experience allows the children to explore the water with a sense of control. Under the supervision of two adult staff in the confined teaching area, the maximum of eight children will explore water buoyancy, breath control and head submersion, along with arm and leg motions both on their front and their back.

### Learn-to-Swim Programs:

**Level 1- Introduction to Water Skills** provide participants, who are fully comfortable with head submersion and buoyancy, the opportunity to explore arm and leg movements with locomotion. As the swimmers progress with demonstrated comfort and endurance, **Level 2 – Fundamental Aquatic Skills** further advances the skills presented in Level 1.

At **Level 3 – Stroke Development**, the participants strive to become Water Competent: Step or jump into the water over their head, return to the surface and float or tread water for one minute, turn around in a full circle, find an exit, swim 25 yards to the exit and exit from the water without using a ladder. Additionally the swimmers will explore new strokes and kicks as well as head first entries.

**Level 4 – Stroke Improvement** classes expand the swimmer's repertoire of strokes including: Front crawl, breast stroke, butterfly,

elementary backstroke, back crawl and sidestroke.

**Level 5 – Stroke Refinement** classes work to improve the six strokes as the swimmers increase their endurance.

**Level 6 – Swimming and Skill**

**Proficiency** further enhances the swimmers' strokes while adding a focus on one of following areas: Personal Water Safety, Fundamental of Diving, or Fitness Swimmer.



### AQUA FITNESS ANNUAL HALLOWEEN PARTY WESTWOOD RECREATION

All the above programs include dedicated time to educate the participant about water safety through discussion, demonstration and practice. The safety topics included, but not limited to, are: Staying Safe Around the Water; Don't Just Pack It, Wear Your Jacket; How to Call for Help; Too Much Sun Is No Fun; Look Before You Leap; Reach, Throw, Don't Go; The Danger of Drains; Think Twice Before Going Near Cold Water or Ice; Recreational Water Illnesses. Safety discussions are appropriately selected for the specific age group.

With the recent up date, the American Red Cross and the Westwood Recreation Department have expanded offerings to include Adult Swim Courses: Learning the Basics, Improving Skills and Swimming Strokes and Swimming for Fitness. All offerings may be presented in a group or private lesson setting. Private Lessons are offered through the Westwood Recreation Department. For more information on Aquatics Offerings, please view the Westwood Recreation Brochure on-line at: [www.westwoodrec.com](http://www.westwoodrec.com).

Contributed by Westwood Recreation

# WESTWOOD PUBLIC LIBRARY

## Winter 2015

Call 781-320-1048 for further information

### MAIN LIBRARY

#### Children's Programming

#### Programs for Pre-School Children

##### STORYTIMES:

**\*Little Listeners:** Ages 3-5. Children will hear stories, songs, watch films and make a craft.  
Tuesdays 10:30-11:15 a.m. **\*Registration Required**  
January 6th-February 24th

**\*Terrific Twos:** Children aged 2 will hear stories, songs, rhymes and make a craft.  
Wednesdays 10:30-11:15 a.m. **\*Registration Required**  
January 7th-February 25th

**\*Babies and Books:** Children under 2 years old with a parent/caregiver. There will be short stories, songs, dance, and puppets.  
Fridays 10:30-11:00 a.m. **\*Registration Required**  
January 9th- February 27th

#### Programs for School Aged Children

**\*Creative Kids:** Children K-1 will have lots of creative fun as they participate in creative dramatics and arts & crafts activities.  
Thursdays, 4:00-4:45 p.m. **\*Registration Required**  
Winter Session: January 8th- February 12th

**\*Simply S.T.E.M.** For Children in grades 1st and 2nd. Come test your hands as a master of STEM (science, technology, engineering, and math) with fun science experiments and other activities.  
Tuesdays, January 13th, 20th, 27th  
4:00-4:45 p.m. **\*Registration Required**

**\*Gizmo, Gadgets, and Goo (G3 Club):** For Children in grades 3-4th. Come run experiments, build contraptions, and gadgets. Each session we will learn about science, technology, art & design, and engineering through demonstrations and hands on activities.  
Tuesdays, March 3rd, 10th, 17th **\*Registration Required**  
4:00-4:45 p.m.

**Kids Movie Afternoon:** For school aged children. Come to the library to enjoy a fun movie afternoon. BYO drinks and nibbles. Call the library or check the website for movie details.  
Wednesdays, January 14th, February 18th, March 4th  
2:00 p.m. **DROP IN PROGRAM**

#### Special Programs for Children at Main Library

**Dadurdays:** Come spend some special dad-time at the library at some of these special dad-themed programs!

##### Select Saturdays:

January 3rd, 10:30 AM: **Dad & Me Little Yogis** (Sponsored by Westwood Early Childhood Council)

February 7th, 2-4 PM: **Toddler Bowling.** For dads with children ages 2-5.

March 7th, 2-2:30 PM: **Dadurday Storytime.** Stories will be geared to children ages 2-5, but all children and a parent/caregiver are welcome.

For additional programs and further information, please call the Main Library Children's Department at 781-320-1042 or the Islington Branch at 781-326-5914 or visit the web site at [www.westwoodlibrary.org](http://www.westwoodlibrary.org)

**\*Toddler Art:** Ages 2-5. All young Matisse's, Picassos, and Monets are invited to participate in this toddler-friendly art program. Each week we will complete a different craft project in honor of National Youth Art Month!

Wednesdays, March 4th, 11th, 18th  
10:30 a.m. **\*Registration Required**

**\*Lucy the READ Dog:** For Children in K-2nd grade. Lucy is a trained companion dog who loves to listen to children read. She even turns the pages of her book! Come listen to a story and then get a chance to read a page or two to Lucy! Bring your favorite book or borrow one of ours to read to her.

Wednesdays, January 7th, March 11th, April 8th  
4:00- 4:45p.m. **\*Registration Required**

**Table Art Afternoon:** Come add your masterpiece to one of our paper-covered tables in celebration of National Youth Art Month!  
Monday, March 9th, 1-9PM **DROP IN PROGRAM**

**Movies for Munchkins:** Come to the children's program room to enjoy picture books on the big screen! We will watch short picture book films perfect for preschoolers.

Mondays, January 12th, February 9th, March 23rd  
10:30 a.m. **DROP IN PROGRAM**

**Crafternoons:** Come to the library to enjoy some fun arts and crafts activities. While supplies last!

Thursday, February 19th @ 1-3 p.m. and  
Saturday, March 21st @ 1-3 p.m. **DROP IN PROGRAM**

#### February Vacation Children's Programs

**Giant Game Day:** Join us at the library for some family fun! Love to play games like Scrabble? Jenga? Chess? Ever play GIANT versions of them? Come to the library and try your hand at these fun games and more.

Tuesday, February 17th 10:30a.m.-6:30p.m.  
**DROP IN PROGRAM**

**Movie Afternoon:** Come enjoy a movie on the big screen with the whole family! Call the Children's Department for more information on the movie being shown.

Wednesday, February 18th @ 2:00 p.m.  
**DROP IN PROGRAM**

**Crafternoon:** Celebrate Lunar New Year with a craft! The library welcomes all young crafters, artists and DIYers to come and make a fun craft to take home during one of our Crafternoons. Program is offered during the hours listed, while supplies last.

Thursday February 19th , 1-3 p.m. **DROP IN PROGRAM**

**Elephant and Piggie Party:** For kids in grades K-2nd. Celebrate the antics of Mo Willems' lovable Elephant and Piggie characters. Come join us for stories, crafts, games and other activities. Be sure to share what your favorite Elephant and Piggie book is! And whatever you do, don't let the Pigeon come to the party!

Friday, February 20th @ 2:00 p.m. **\*Registration Required**



# WESTWOOD PUBLIC LIBRARY

## Winter 2015 (continued)

### ISLINGTON BRANCH PROGRAMS

#### Children's Programming

**\*Storytime:** Ages 2 and up. Children will participate in stories, songs, films and crafts.

Thursdays, 9:30-10:15 a.m.

January 8th-February 26th

**\*Registration Required**

**\*PJ Storytime:** Ages 3 and up. Children can come in their jammies and bring a special stuffed animal and blanket to hear stories and songs.

3rd Wednesday of the month:

January 21st, February 18th, and March 18th

6:30-7:15pm

**\*Registration Required**

**\*LEGO Mania:** Come and build Lego creations with library Legos. For K and up.

Tuesdays, 3:45-4:45 p.m.

January 6th- March 31st

**\*Registration Required**

#### All Library Programs are Free.

Registration begins one month prior to program start date.

To register for Main Library Programs,  
please call 781-320-1042.

To register for Islington Branch programs,  
please call 781-326-5914

### MAIN LIBRARY

#### Adult Programming

**Pageturners:** A book review program for adult readers. Circulation Supervisor Nancy Hogan will review a combination of fiction, mystery, non-fiction, and biography books. Informal and informative, Pageturners is an entertaining look at what's new in the library.

Bring a friend! No sign ups necessary.

Friday, March 13th @ 3:00 p.m. **DROP IN PROGRAM**

### ISLINGTON BRANCH

#### Adult Programming

**Islington Branch BookShare:** Bring a book you have read to share with the group as you enjoy a cup of coffee with fellow readers!

Tuesdays, November 18th, January 20th, March 17th, May 19th

10:30 a.m.

**DROP IN PROGRAM**

**Islington Branch Book Group:** Join us at the Branch to discuss some great reads!

Select Wednesdays @ 6:30 p.m.

January 14th *The Orphans of Race Point* by Patry Francis

February 11th *Cascade* by Maryanne O'Hara

March 11th *Death Comes to Pemberly* by PD James

**DROP IN PROGRAM**

### Where in Westwood was this?



PHOTO CREDIT: KAREN MANOR METZOLD

**Answer:** Can you tell? This is the front lawn of the Town Hall on High Street. Admittedly, deer are not an uncommon sight in Westwood, but this doe was quietly trimming the front lawn of the Town Hall one evening late in September. Considering the number of cars that travel east and west on Route 109, this editor finds the relative calm of the deer to be quite astonishing. The photographer stopped to snap the picture and did not even phase the creature. Life is good in Westwood!

## TOWN BULLETIN BOARD for Winter 2014-2015

- December 16 **Memory Cafe**  
2-3:30 p.m. Westwood Public Library (*see page 2*)  
(brought to you by White Oak Cottages)
- December 17 **Commonwealth Connect**  
Launches in Westwood (*see page 6*)
- December 29 **Cardboard ONLY dumpster available**  
to January 5 DPW, Carby Street (*see page 2*)  
7 a.m.-3 p.m. (Closed Saturday afternoon; all day Sunday)
- January 3 **Styrofoam ONLY collection**  
8 a.m.-noon DPW, Carby Street (*see page 2*)
- January 9 **Foundation for Westwood Education Spelling Bee**  
Westwood High School (*see page 8*)
- January 26 **Chiara Bistro Fundraiser**  
Westwood Community Chest (*see page 7*)
- February 10 **Warning Coordination Meteorologist**, presented  
7:30 p.m. by Glen Field (*see page 2*)  
Westwood Historical Society, Fisher School
- March 10 **Immigration of the Irish to Boston**, presented  
7:30 p.m. by Anthony Sammarco (*see page 2*)  
Westwood Historical Society, Fisher School



This Winter in Westwood  
580 High Street  
Westwood, MA 02090

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## Westwood Recreation Special Events

**NEW YEAR'S EVE FIREWORKS**  
BRING IN 2015 WITH A BANG!  
**WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 31**  
**7:00 PM SHARP**  
**WESTWOOD HIGH SCHOOL**

SPONSORED BY  **Roche Bros.**  
*Your family deserves the best.*

**SAVE THE DATE**

**March into Summer** 



**SATURDAY, MARCH 14, 2015**  
**10:00 AM-2:00 PM**  
**RECREATION DEPARTMENT**

**ALL AGES WELCOME – FREE**

- Summer Program Preview
- Pool Activities
- Inflatables
- 10% discount on Summer Programs paid in full
- Crafts

**FULL DETAILS COMING THIS FEBRUARY!**

**Need a change of scene?**

 I Love Lucy - LIVE! Mar 1	 Washington, DC Apr 8 - 11	 Nantucket Island May 31 - June 1
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**We have just the thing!**

Westwood Recreation is offering unique trips which allow you to concentrate on the fun while leaving all the arrangements, and the driving, to us. So grab your girlfriend, sister, or husband and join us for an adventure.

 Visit [westwoodrec.com](http://westwoodrec.com)  
or call 781-461-0070 for details.

**Library programs are listed on pages 10 & 11**